President Manuel L. Quezon at the start of the CpStoon- wealth Government had to remove obstacles to plans" 4aid-< down for a fruitful administration. He had first of all to make his leadership secure and undisputed. To do this he had to be able to count on legislative as well as executive support. Against strong opposition, including that of the retiring Speaker of the House of Representatives, he was able to impose his will on a rather reluctant Legislature. As a result the Speaker of the National Assembly was divested of the traditional powers he had legally and extra-legally exer- cised, to become principally a presiding officer, and the Presi- dent of the Commonwealth was permitted to deal directly with legislative committees. The Speaker chosen to fit into the new scheme of government was Hon. Gil Montilla, a sugar magnate from Occidental Negros who had behind him an excellent record as Provincial Governor and Senator.

President Quezon will thus have a free hand in shaping the policies of the Government and in developing an organi- zation to carry them out. Before this he had revealed his purpose to be "more government and less politics," an an- nouncement which was greeted with wide public approbation. A coalition government of the best men available for impor- tant posts was assured.

After the inauguration, the governmental machinery con- tinued to turn with only imperative changes being made in personnel. For the time being the President's Cabinet re- mained as constituted under the Governor-General, with the

exception that the portfolio of Public Instruction was taken over by Vice President Osmefia. Substitutions for those In the Cabinet will come gradually, as will governmental reorganization to meet the new conditions existing under the Commonwealth. As Auditor General, Jaime Hernandez, former Deputy Insular Auditor, was named. Under Secretary Jorge B. Vargas was designated for the key position of Secretary to the President. Hon. Ramon Avanceiia received an *ad interim*